

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a telecommunications system, the telecommunication system comprising at least a first telecommunication network and a second telecommunications network and providing at least one supplementary telecommunications service for a first station, the method comprising the steps of:

initiating a set-up procedure for communications between a the first station and a second station via said telecommunication system, wherein the first station initiates the communication with the second station;

sending an enquiry to a number portability service, said number portability service facilitating porting of stations from the first telecommunications network to the second telecommunications network so that the number or address of the ported stations remains the same;

determining if the second station is a ported station;

and

informing at least one supplementary telecommunications service of the results of said determination during a phase that is before a phase in which the set-up procedure is completed and before provision of said at least one supplementary telecommunication service for said first station is initiated.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining the status of the number portability service for the second station and the step of informing said at least one supplementary telecommunications service of said status are accomplished at a node controlling both the number portability service and said at least one supplementary telecommunications service.

3. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein the supplementary telecommunications service is based on an INAP protocol suite, and the control node comprises a service control point (SCP) and a number portability register of the number portability service.

4. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein the supplementary telecommunications service is based on customised applications for mobile network enhanced logic, and the control node comprises a service environment of the customised applications for mobile network enhanced logic and a number portability register of the number portability service.

5. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said at least one supplementary telecommunication service is informed of the results of the determination only if the second station is determined to be a ported station.

6. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the number portability service is one of the supplementary telecommunications services provided by the telecommunications system.

7. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the telecommunications system comprises a mobile telecommunications network including a controller and a home location register for storing user related data associated to individual subscribers of the mobile telecommunications network, and the number portability service comprises a routing information register between the network controller and the home location register, comprising the steps of:

sending the enquiry as a routing information enquiry from the network controller to the home location register during the set-up of the connection;

directing the routing information enquiry to pass through the routing information register;

determining at the routing information register the status of the number portability service of the second station; and

if the second station is determined to be a ported number, returning the status information to the controller without allowing the routing information enquiry to enter the home location register.

8. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the status of the number portability service is verified in the beginning of an originating status model of an supplementary telecommunications application protocol suite.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein the verifying of said status comprises a step of sending a service routing register inquiry at an initial detection point of an INAP or a CAMEL protocol.

10. (Currently Amended) A network element for use in a telecommunications system, said telecommunications system comprising at least a first telecommunications network and a second telecommunications network and providing at least one supplementary telecommunications service for a first station communicating with the system, the network element comprising:

communication set-up means for set-up proceedings of a communication between the first station and a second station, wherein the first station initiates the communication with the second station;

control means for controlling said at least one supplementary telecommunications service;

means for providing a number portability service for the stations, said number portability service facilitating porting of a station from the first telecommunications network so that the number or address of the ported station remains the same;

wherein the network element is arranged to determine if the second station is a ported station and to inform said at least one supplementary telecommunications service of the result of the determination during a phase that is before a phase in which the set-up procedure is completed and before use of said at least one supplementary telecommunications service is initiated for the communication by the first station.

11. (Currently Amended) A network element in accordance with claim 10, wherein the determination whether the second station is a ported station or not is accomplished by the means for providing the number portability service.

12. (Previously Presented) network element in accordance with claim 10, wherein the control means for controlling said at least one supplementary telecommunications service comprises a service control point and the means for providing number portability service comprise a routing register.
13. (Currently Amended) A network element in accordance with claim 12, wherein the network element is arranged to use intelligent network application part (INAP) protocol suite for implementing the supplementary telecommunications services, and to verify the status of the number portability service for the second station in the beginning of originating status model of the intelligent network application part (INAP) protocol.
14. (Previously Presented) A network element in accordance with claim 10, wherein the network element is arranged to use customised applications for mobile network enhanced logic, the control means comprise a service environment of the customised applications for mobile network enhanced logic and the means for providing number portability service comprise a routing register.
15. (Previously Presented) A network element in accordance with claim 10, wherein the number portability service is one of the supplementary telecommunications services.
16. (Currently Amended) A network element in accordance with claim 10, wherein the telecommunications system comprises a first mobile network and a second mobile network, the second station being a mobile station ported from the first mobile network to the second mobile network.
17. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system enabling at least two stations connected to the system to communicate comprising:
a first telecommunications network;
a second telecommunications network;

supplementary telecommunications service means for providing at least one supplementary telecommunications service for ~~communicating with the system;~~ a first station;

control means for controlling said at least one supplementary telecommunications service;

communication set-up means for set-up proceedings of a communication between ~~the two stations;~~ the first station and a second station, wherein the first station initiates the communication with the second station;

means for providing a number portability service for the stations, said number portability service facilitating porting of a station from the first telecommunications network to the second telecommunications network so that the number or address of the ported station may remain the same; wherein the telecommunications system is arranged to determine if the second station is a ported station and to inform said at least one supplementary telecommunications service of the result of the determination during a phase that is before a phase in which the set-up procedure is completed and before use of said at least one supplementary telecommunications service is initiated for the communication by the first station.

18. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 17, wherein the determination whether the second station is a ported station or not is accomplished by the means for providing the number portability service.

19. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 17, wherein the control means for controlling said at least one supplementary telecommunications service comprises a service control point and the means for providing number portability service comprise a routing register.

20. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 17, wherein the number portability service is one of the supplementary telecommunications services provided by the telecommunications system.

21. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 17, comprising a first mobile network and a second mobile network, the second station being a mobile station ported from the first mobile network to the second mobile network.